

cit. p. 305). The English skull is, however, broader than the Belgian one, their respective transverse diameters being 182 and 178.5 mm. As the latter is adult and the former immature, the English skull might eventually have somewhat exceeded the Belgian in length. Be this as it may, I am informed by the Director of the Tervueren Museum that the mounted skin of the specimen to which the skull pertained is 4 feet 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches (145.5 cm.) in height, or practically the same as specimens in which the skull-length is only 339 mm.

Although, as mentioned above, no decisive evidence of this is afforded by the two English mounted specimens, hornless okapies are regarded as females. On the other hand, all the horned examples that have come under my notice are undoubtedly males; and since the Ituri natives affirm that the bulls are armed while the cows are defenceless, the existence of this secondary sexual difference may be at least provisionally accepted.

Assuming, then, the hornless specimens to be truly females, the foregoing data indicate that female okapies are larger than males. The alternative would appear to be that there is a larger and a smaller form; but this I hesitate to admit, more especially as I have not seen either an adult male agreeing in stature with the females or an adult female corresponding in size to the males, the smaller of the two hornless skulls presented to the British Museum by Sir H. Johnston indicating a comparatively young animal.

XXV.—*Two new African Mammals.*

By GUY DOLLMAN.

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PRIONOMYS, gen. nov. (*Muridæ*).

Size similar to that of a large species of *Dendromus*. Fore feet with four well-formed digits; pollex suppressed. Digits II.–IV. moderately elongated, with short claws; outer or V. digit only about half the length of the two middle fingers, with a small inconspicuous nail. Hind feet with five digits, all provided with claws. Hallux stout, about half the length of the middle toe; claw on hallux smaller and blunter than

those on the other toes. Ears rounded and simple, with no internal folds such as occur in *Dendromus*. Tail long and almost naked.

Skull with a broad square-shaped brain-case; zygomatic breadth very much greater than in *Dendromus*, zygoma set in a nearly parallel position. Squamosal portion of zygoma broad and horizontally expanded. Palate and pterygoid regions much as in *Dendromus*. Palatal foramina and nasals much shorter than in *Dendromus*. Lower jaw with very short coronoid processes, not rising above the level of the condyles. Angular processes inflected inwards, more so than in *Dendromus*.

Teeth: upper incisors short, slender, ungrooved, and thrown forwards, projecting anteriorly beyond the nasals, somewhat as in *Uranomys*. Upper molar teeth broad and fairly large, highly cuspidate; the cusps arranged very much as in *Dendromus*, though in *Prionomys* the cusps are raised up into sharp recurved points, their grinding-surfaces facing backwards, resembling in this respect the genus *Mylomys*. Cusp-formula of the three laminae of m^1 as in ordinary *Dendromyinae*, 2.3.2. Internal cusp large and well-developed. Longitudinal grooves between the outer and median cusps and median and inner cusps, sharply defined, the outer of the two grooves straight and uninterrupted throughout the whole length of the tooth. Outer cusps of the three laminae rather taller than those of the median series and laterally compressed. No trace of the small median anterior supplementary cusp which is present in *Dendromus*. M^2 with cusps arranged on much the same plan as in m^1 , the two longitudinal grooves well-marked and the cusps avicularian. Inner cusp well developed. Longitudinal groove between median and external cusps of the laminae as evident as in m^1 . M^3 small and simple, composed, as in *Dendromus*, of two small cusps with a groove between them. Lower incisors slender and sharply pointed, set in a more horizontal position than in *Dendromus*. Lower molars, like the upper series, highly cuspidate, only here the cusps are curved in the opposite direction, their tips and concave grinding-surfaces facing forwards. M_1 composed of three laminae of two cusps each, cusp-formula 2.2.2. Median longitudinal groove between the outer and inner cusps of the three laminae deep, straight, and clearly defined. Postero-internal cusp small. Inner cusps, with the exception of the postero-internal, rather taller than outer series. M_2 with four prominent cusps, two on either side of the deep longitudinal groove. M_3 larger than

the corresponding tooth in the upper jaw ; composed of two cusps, one on either side of a median groove.

Type, *Prionomys batesi*.

This genus would appear to be more nearly related to the genus *Dendromus* than to any other of the allied genera. The teeth, while resembling those of *Dendromus* to a certain extent in their general arrangement, possess such curiously shaped cusps that it is evident at once, from this character alone, that the two genera are quite distinct. The general appearance of the skull, with the ungrooved slanting incisors, short palatal foramina, and great breadth of the brain-case and zygoma, is quite unlike that of any other member of the *Dendromyinae*.

Externally the animal exhibits a series of characters quite as distinct as those of the skull. Though resembling *Dendromus* in the possession of a long prehensile tail, it is readily distinguished by the occurrence of four well-formed digits on the fore feet and by the presence of comparatively small simple ears.

Prionomys batesi, sp. n.

General appearance and size much the same as a large species of the genus *Dendromus*.

Ears rather small and rounded, thinly clad on both surfaces with short dark hairs. Feet as described above. Fur soft and rather short, measuring 4 or 5 mm. in length on the back. Whiskers long and fairly numerous, with black bases and greyish tips. General colour of upper surface pale chocolate (between chocolate no. 2 and otter-brown no. 4, 'Repertoire de Couleurs'), paling on the flanks and passing almost imperceptibly into the greyish tint of the ventral surface. Face between eyes rather paler than rest of upper parts; sides of face below eyes lighter and washed with pinkish buff. Eyes surrounded by narrow blackish rings. Individual hairs of body dark slaty grey with chocolate-buff tips. Back of hands and feet covered with very short whitish hairs, a few darker hairs on the metacarpal and metatarsal regions. Entire underparts grey, washed with pale pinkish buff; hairs with pale slate-grey bases and long pinkish-buff tips. Tail blackish brown, thinly clad with a number of minute brownish hairs, appearing at first sight almost naked. Apical portion of upperside of tail devoid of hair, probably prehensile, as in *Dendromus*. Lower surface of tail similar to upper, except that the minute hairs extend right to the tip.

Skull broad and stoutly built, zygomatic arches widely spread, the zygomatic breadth being rather greater across the squamosal region (14·7 mm.) than across the maxillary region (14·1 mm.). Nasals fairly broad anteriorly, narrowing posteriorly. Brain-case as described above. Palatal foramina short, terminating posteriorly about 1 mm. in front of the anterior level of the molar series. Auditory bullæ small and rather flat. Teeth as described above.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh):—

Head and body 59 mm. ; tail 99 ; hind foot 15 ; ear 12.

Skull: greatest length 24; basal length 20·7; condylo-basal length 22·5; basilar length 19·2; condylo-basilar length 21; zygomatic breadth 14·7; interorbital breadth 4·9; breadth of brain-case (behind squamosal region) 11·3; nasals, greatest length 8·3, greatest breadth 2·7, least breadth 1·3; palatal length 12·4; palatilar length 11; width of palate, just anterior to inner cusps of m^1 , 3·2; length of palatal foramina 3·7; post-palatal length 8; length of upper cheek-teeth 4·6; length of m^1 2·7; length of m^2 1·7; length of upper incisors 3·3.

Hab. Bitye, Ja River, Cameroons. Altitude 2000 feet.

Type. Adult male. Original number 506. Collected by Mr. G. L. Bates on February 21st, 1910.

I have named this interesting mouse after the collector, Mr. G. L. Bates, whose name is already associated with so many remarkable West African mammals.

Acomys ignitus, sp. n.

Allied to *Acomys selousi*, de Wint., but larger and very much brighter in colour.

Size and general proportions much as in *A. mullah*, Thos.; tail rather shorter, about equal in length to that of *A. witherbyi*, de Wint. Ears comparatively small. Texture of pelage about as in *A. witherbyi*, slender, rather spinous hairs on head, shoulders, anterior back, flanks, and entire ventral surface, and broad, flattened spines on the rump and posterior back. General colour of upper surface brownish orange, becoming brighter in colour on the flanks (dead leaf no. 1 mixed with tan colour no. 1, 'Repertoire de Couleurs'). Line of demarcation between the reddish flanks and white ventral surface sharply defined. Flattened spines of posterior back slate-grey, turning orange towards the tips, the extreme tips brownish. Spinous hairs on flanks with light slate-grey bases, buffish towards the middle and deepening to reddish orange in the terminal portions. Backs of hands and

feet white. Entire underparts white; hairs white to the roots. Tail stout and a great deal more scaly than in *A. selousi*, the whole tail much coarser, owing to the scales being larger and the short bristle-like hairs more fully developed. Tail above silvery grey, covered with short black bristles; under-side similar, but with white hairs.

Skull much larger than that of *A. selousi*, about equal in size to that of the Somaliland species, *A. mullah*. Nasals long and rather narrow. Palatal foramina extending back to behind the level of the middle of the first molar; in *A. selousi* the palatal foramina do not extend back beyond the level of the anterior lamina of m^1 . Auditory bullæ rather prominent.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh):—

Head and body 109 mm.; tail 89; hind foot 16·5; ears destroyed. (In another specimen, from the type locality, the ears are given as 17 mm. in length.)

Skull: greatest length 30·5; basal length 25·4; condylo-basal length 28; basilar length 23·4; condylo-basilar length 25·5; zygomatic breadth 15·2; interorbital breadth 5; breadth of cranium (across squamosal region) 13·5; nasals, greatest length 11·3, greatest breadth 2·9, least breadth 2; length of palatal foramina 7·5; width of palate (inside m^1) 3; width across palate (outside m^1) 6; length of upper cheek-teeth 4·3.

Hab. Voi, British East Africa. Altitude 2000 feet.

Type. Adult male. B.M. no. 10. 6. 2. 120. Original number 878. Collected by Mr. R. Kemp on April 4th, 1910, during his work in connexion with Mr. C. D. Rudd's East African Expedition.

This handsome species is distinguished at once from *A. selousi* by its much larger size, brighter colour, and more hairy tail.

XXVI.—*Two new Oriental Viverridæ.*

By ERNST SCHWARZ.

Paradoxurus vicinus, sp. n.

A *Paradoxurus* of the *niger* type, most nearly allied to *P. minor* from Selangor, but larger and with longer fur; the dorsal stripes somewhat more indistinct, but not broken up into spots.